



# The Daily Star

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## Arrests, raids; leaders hiding

Rizvi among 11 BNP leaders held; dozens of top opposition leaders sued for arson, bomb blast during hartal

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Amid raids and arrests, senior BNP leaders have gone into hiding, as the government's sudden tough stance against the opposition's continuous agitation yesterday sent panic sweeping

through the ranks of the 18-party alliance.

Police arrested the BNP's Joint Secretary General Ruhul Kabir Rizvi in the capital's Kakrail area around two hours after yesterday's dawn-to-dusk hartal, the

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## Both parties going tough

Violence makes people suffer

HASAN JAHID TUSHER and RAKIB HASNET SUMAN

The ruling Awami League and the main opposition BNP have adopted conflicting policies against each other. The AL has decided to counter the ongoing BNP agitation while the opposition is determined to oust the government at any cost.

The situation was very alarming and

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## May Day today

UNB, Dhaka

The historic May Day will be observed today in the country as elsewhere in the world with a renewed pledge to protect the

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## Holiday

The office of The Daily Star will remain closed today, the May Day. Therefore, our newspaper will not be published tomorrow.

## HILLARY'S VISIT Trade, defence cooperation top agenda

REZAUL KARIM

The USA is likely to push for a framework for defence cooperation between Dhaka and Washington during US Secretary of State Hillary Clinton's May 5-6 visit to Bangladesh.

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## PM for duty-free access to US market

MD FAZLUR RAHMAN, from Habiganj

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday urged the United States to allow duty and quota free access of Bangladeshi products to boost trade relations between the two countries.

"Bangladeshi products get duty and quota free access to the European Union and many other

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Police and people gather near the wreckage of an auto-rickshaw and an ambulance on New Airport Road in the capital's Banani yesterday. Two persons were killed and another injured as the ambulance hit the CNG-run auto-rickshaw in the morning.

PHOTO: RASHED SHUMON

## NEWS ANALYSIS When anti-politics becomes the norm

SYED BADRUL AHSAN

The government machinery has no clue about the whereabouts of M Ilias Ali. The opposition clearly thinks political turmoil on the streets will bring about the change it has ardently desired over these past three years and more. The security forces would have you know that all moves to locate the missing BNP politician have been thwarted by these hartal programmes of the opposition.

The prime minister and her loyalists are open to the suggestion that Ilias Ali's own party might have secreted him away somewhere as a way of creating commotion in the country.

For her part, the leader of the opposition informs the

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## Railwaygate probe body visits spot

BGB jawans to be quizzed

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The railway probe body investigating the railwaygate scandal will interrogate tomorrow BGB members involved in detaining former railway minister Suranjit Sengupta's APS, his driver and two top officials of railway.

The two-member committee will ask them to

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## Crash kills 2 brothers

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A Swiss expatriate and his brother died when an ambulance rammed into a CNG-run auto-rickshaw at Banani on New Airport Road in the capital yesterday morning, during

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## Boro price Tk 28 a kg

Govt to buy 10 lakh tonnes of rice, paddy

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The government will procure at least 10 lakh tonnes of rice at Tk 28 a kg from the domestic market this Boro season.

The procurement starts on May 3 and will continue until September, Food

Minister Abdur Razzaque announced yesterday.

"We will purchase nine lakh tonnes of milled rice and 1.5 lakh tonnes of paddy. In total, it will be 10 lakh tonnes of rice," the minister told journalists after a

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## Luna to meet PM tomorrow

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday agreed to meet Tahsina Rushdir Luna, wife of missing BNP leader M Ilias Ali, after the latter wished to meet her,

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